08
COMIC
HIROJI MISHIMA
ORIGINAL
ICHIEI ISHIBUMI
CHARACTER DESIGN
ZERO MIYAMA
PARENTAL ADVISORY
WARNING
EXPLICIT CONTENT

HIGH SCHOOL D×D
08
COMIC
Hiroji Mishima
ORIGINAL
Ichiei Ishibumi
CHARACTER DESIGN
Zero Miyama

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HIGH SCHOOL DxD
COMIC
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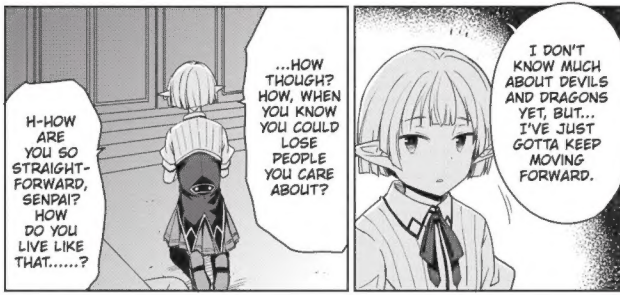
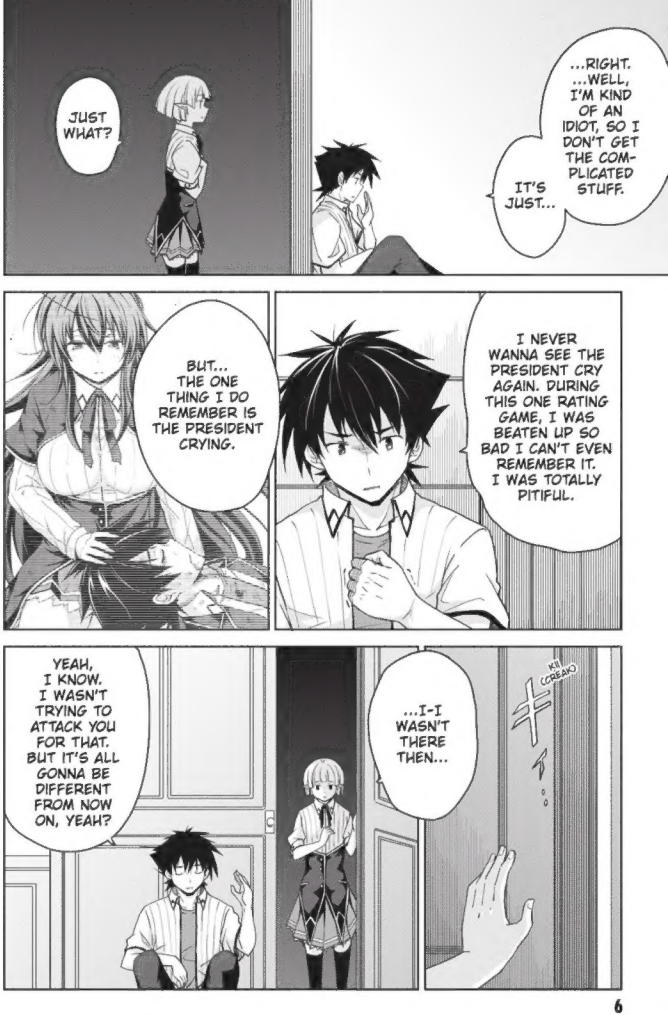
LIFE 42:
I'LL HANDLE MY (MALE) KOUHAI!!

I'LL HANDLE GASPARD FOR YOU!
...VERY WELL.
OKAY, ISSEI. TAKE CARE OF HIM, THEN.
LEAVE IT TO ME.
HEY, GASPARD, LET'S TALK.
KON (KNOCK)
コン
KON
コン...
.....
I'M NOT MOVING AN INCH UNTIL YOU GET YOUR BUTT OUT HERE.

.....
...YOU SCARED? OF YOUR SACRED GEAR... AND OF US?

I GET IT. I'VE GOT THIS LEGENDARY DRAGON SACRED GEAR INSIDE ME... BUT UNLIKE YOU AND KIBA, I WAS JUST A NORMAL HUMAN. NO TRAGIC PAST OR ANYTHING.
HONESTLY... EVERY TIME I USE THAT SCARY DRAGON'S POWER, IT FEELS LIKE SOME PART OF ME IS TURNING INTO SOMETHING ELSE ALTOGETHER.


I DON'T KNOW MUCH ABOUT DEVILS AND DRAGONS YET, BUT... I'VE JUST GOTTA KEEP MOVING FORWARD.
...HOW THOUGH? HOW, WHEN YOU KNOW YOU COULD LOSE PEOPLE YOU CARE ABOUT?
H-HOW ARE YOU SO STRAIGHT-FORWARD, SENPAI? HOW DO YOU LIVE LIKE THAT.....?


...RIGHT. ...WELL, I'M KIND OF AN IDIOT, SO I DON'T GET THE COMPLICATED STUFF.
IT'S JUST...
JUST WHAT?
I NEVER WANNA SEE THE PRESIDENT CRY AGAIN. DURING THIS ONE RATING GAME, I WAS BEATEN UP SO BAD I CAN'T EVEN REMEMBER IT. I WAS TOTALLY PITIFUL.
BUT... THE ONE THING I DO REMEMBER IS THE PRESIDENT CRYING.
...I-I WASN'T THERE THEN...
KU! CORE-NO
YEAH, I KNOW. I WASN'T TRYING TO ATTACK YOU FOR THAT. BUT IT'S ALL GONNA BE DIFFERENT FROM NOW ON, YEAH?

I'M SO SHY. AND A SHUT-IN...AND I CAN'T USE MY SACRED GEAR RIGHT...
A-ALL I DO IS CAUSE TROUBLE FOR OTHERS...

ぽ。ん
PON
HEY, I DON'T BLAME YOU FOR ANY OF THAT. AND AS YOUR SENPAI, I'M GONNA LOOK OUT FOR YOU.
ぽ。ん
PON (PAT)
...WELL, I GUESS FROM A DEVIL'S PERSPECTIVE, YOU'RE ACTUALLY MY SENPAI, BUT...JUST LEAVE IT TO ME.

HELP ME OUT. LET'S SUPPORT THE PRESIDENT TOGETHER. IF ANYONE SCARES YOU, I'LL KICK THEIR ASS. I'VE GOT A LEGENDARY DRAGON IN ME, AFTER ALL.
AH. WANNA DRINK SOME OF MY BLOOD? IF WHAT THAT AZAZEL GUY SAID IS TRUE, DRINKING MY BLOOD MIGHT HELP YOU CONTROL YOUR SACRED GEAR BETTER.

AND I'M STILL SCARED OF MY OWN POWER ANYWAY...IF IT GOT EVEN STRONGER, I DON'T KNOW HOW I'D...
...DRINKING BLOOD FROM A LIVING PERSON'S JUST TOO SCARY.
SO YOU DON'T LIKE HOW YOUR SACRED GEAR'S CONTROLLING YOU, HUH?
I'M ACTUALLY PRETTY JEALOUS OF YOUR POWER, Y'KNOW.
EH?
I'D HAVE A FIELD DAY IF I COULD STOP TIME!
IT'D BE AN ALL-YOU-CAN-SQUEEZE BUFFET OF THE PRESIDENT'S BOOBS...
PUNI (SQUISH)
PUNI (SQUISH)
AH, I'D BE FINE WITH AKENO-SAN'S BOOBS TOO! OR EVEN JUST A PEEK AT HER PANTIES! ENDLESS POSSIBILITIES!
※THIS IS IMAGINED.

...YOU'RE TOO KIND, ISSEI-SENPAI. NO ONE'S EVER BEEN JEALOUS OF ME...AND THOSE ARE SOME REALLY SPECIFIC IDEAS...
KUSU (GIGGLE)
YOU'RE A FUN GUY, ISSEI-SENPAI.
LISTEN UP NOW.
I WANNA TAKE THE RED DRAGON EMPEROR'S POWER...
...AND IMBUE THE PRESI-DENT'S BOOBS WITH IT.
...IN-INCREDIBLE. TO POSSESS A MIGHTILY POWERFUL SACRED GEAR YET WANT TO USE IT FOR SOMETHING SO VULGAR ...
I-I'M NOT SURE I COMPLETELY GET YOUR TRAIN OF THOUGHT, BUT I FEEL LIKE I UNDERSTAND YOUR HOPES AND DREAMS, AT LEAST A BIT. YOUR LUST FILLS YOU WITH BRAVERY, ISSEI-SENPAI.
AIN'T IT THE TRUTH! IT'S ALL ABOUT HOW YOU USE IT! AND I USE MY SACRED GEAR TO FULFILL MY PASSIONS!

AKENO-SAN'S TOO! MY DREAMS ARE LIMIT-LESS!
I'M GONNA SUCK ON THE PRESI-DENT'S BOOBS AND TRANS-FER THIS POWER TO 'EM!
HEY, SEE THIS RIGHT HAND OF MINE? IT'S GROPED THE PRESIDENT'S BOOBS.
DOWN, BOY.
I-I THINK YOUR COURAGE IS CONTAGIOUS BECAUSE I'M FEELING IT...
T-TRANSFERRING POWER TO BOOBS...USING LONGINUS'S POTENTIAL IN SUCH AN UNORTHODOX WAY...N-NO DOUBT, THE DEVIL KING REALLY IS THE GREATEST...
TRANSFERRING POWER TO HER BOOBS WAS ACTUALLY THE DEVIL KING'S IDEA. AND I'M ETERNALLY GRATEFUL TO SIRZECHS-SAMA FOR IT. HE'S AWESOME! HE'S GIVEN ME ALL SORTS OF INSPIRATION!
S-SERIOUSLY? O-OUR MASTER'S... A HIGH-CLASS DEVIL'S CHEST? IT'S ONE SHOCK AFTER ANOTHER WITH YOU, ISSEI-SENPAI...

THIS IS PERFECT. I'VE GOT A PLAN FOR JUST US BOYS.
WHAT'S THAT?
HEY, KIBA.
I SHOULD'VE EXPECTED THAT YOU'D HAVE GASPARD-KUN CHATTING ALREADY, ISSEI-KUN.
I'M LISTENING. CARE TO EXPLAIN?
I'VE THOUGHT UP A WAY THE BOYS OF THE GREMORY PEERAGE CAN HELP EACH OTHER OUT.
GUH-HEH-HEH...
WHILE TIME'S STOPPED, I HAVE MY FILL OF CUTIES.
...JUST MORE PERVERTED DELUSIONS, THEN. WHAT ROLE DO I PLAY IN ALL THIS...?
FIRST, I STORE UP SOME POWER. THEN I TRANSFER IT TO GASPARD, AND HE STOPS TIME.
ピカ
PIKA (FLASH)

ISSEI-KUN... CAN YOU TRY TO THINK ABOUT THE FUTURE SERIOUSLY, JUST ONCE?
BIGH! (POINT)
YOU PROTECT ME WITH YOUR BALANCE BREAKER. JUST IN CASE ANY ENEMIES DECIDE TO ATTACK WHILE I'M HAVING MY FUN!
...BECAUSE IT'S YOU, YOU GET OBSESSED AS SOON AS YOU REALIZE, AND THE PRESIDENT AND THE OTHERS ARE LIKELY TO PAMPER YOU, SO I'LL LET THE MATTER DROP...BECAUSE RECENT MEMORY IS SCARY.
AW, WHO NEEDS YOU, PRETTY BOY! WITH YOU AT THE GIRL BUFFET, I PROLLY WOULDN'T GET MUCH ANYWAY!
IT'S TIME FOR THE FIRST-EVER "I GO GAGA OVER THIS CERTAIN BODY PART" ROUNDTABLE! I'LL GO FIRST! I'M A SUCKER FOR BOOBS AND LEGS!
LET'S LAY IT ALL ON THE TABLE, MY FELLOW MEN.
HUH? ...WELL, WHATEVER.
? ?
HEH HEH HEH...

AH, S-SORRY... CAN I GET BACK IN MY BOX? ...I WON'T CLOSE THE LID, BUT BEING IN THERE HELPS ME RELAX.
FURU
FURU (TREMBLE)
HE'S WORRIED THAT ANYONE HE FREEZES WILL END UP HATING HIM, SO HE SHUTS HIMSELF AWAY.
HE'S SO SCARED OF ACCIDENTALLY FREEZING US WITH HIS TIME-STOPPING SACRED GEAR.
IN THAT CASE, I'LL STILL HELP HIM HAVE AS MUCH FUN AS POSSIBLE.
DO WHAT YOU GOTTA DO.

IF YOU'RE THAT WORRIED ABOUT LOOKING AT PEOPLE, HOW ABOUT THIS?
PIKUN (POKE)
GASA (RUSTLE)
SURI (RUB)
SURI
AHH, I FEEL BETTER ALREADY. THIS BOX IS LIKE AN OASIS FOR MY HEART...
D-DOES IT SUIT ME? HOW DO I LOOK?
FURA (SWAY)
LIKE A WEIRD PERV! SUPER-SCARY!
TH-THAT'S ...
...THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE ACTUALLY BEEN SCARED OF YOU.
U-FU-FU.
AH, BUT... I LIKE IT. IT WORKS FOR ME...

THE NEXT DAY OFF
FUU (PANT)
HII (WHEEZE)
I'VE COME HERE ON A SUMMONS FROM AKENO-SAN, BUT—
YOU MUSTN'T GET ANYWHERE NEAR SHRINES OR CHURCHES!
THIS IS...
...SO TOTALLY ENEMY TERRI-TORY!

WELCOME, ISSEI-KUN.
A-AKENO-SAN!?

LIFE43:
I GET THE "DRAGON SLAYER"!?

I'M SORRY FOR CALLING YOU HERE SO SUDDENLY.
NO PROB. I HAD THE TIME. BUT WHAT'S THIS ABOUT? I HEARD THE PRESIDENT'S SHOWING UP LATER.

RIAS IS FINALIZING THE DETAILS OF THE CONFERENCE WITH SIRZECHS-SAMA.
AND YOU DON'T NEED TO BE THERE, AKENO-SAN?

THEY HAVE GRAYFIA-SAMA WITH THEM. AND THERE'S SOMEONE COMING HERE WHOM I MUST GREET.
HERE... BUT THIS IS A SHRINE...

YOU'LL BE FINE.
A CERTAIN AGREEMENT HAS MADE IT SAFE FOR DEVILS.
YEAH, I DON'T FEEL ANY-THING.
SO DO YOU LIVE HERE, AKENO-SAN? BASED ON THAT GETUP...
YES. THIS SHRINE IS UNMANNED OTHERWISE, SO RIAS SECURED IT FOR ME.
IS THIS THE RED DRAGON EMPEROR?

PLEASED TO MEET YOU ISSEI HYOUDOU-KUN OF THE RED DRAGON EMPEROR.
I AM MICHAEL, LEADER OF THE ANGELS.
...IS A MAJOR BIG SHOT ...!
THE GUY SHE WAS MEETING...
HUH!?
AH, INDEED. DDRAIG'S AURA IS UNMISTAKABLE. HOW VERY NOSTALGIC.

I'M ACTUALLY HERE TO PRESENT YOU WITH THIS.
TH-THIS AURA...
THIS IS ASCALON, THE DRAGON-SLAYER HOLY SWORD EMPLOYED BY NONE OTHER THAN ST. GEORGE.
A SPECIAL RITUAL HAS RENDERED IT SAFE TO USE EVEN BY YOU— A DEVIL WITH THE POWER OF A DRAGON.
A HOLY SWORD!?
BUT RATHER THAN YOU WIELDING IT OUTRIGHT, WE HOPE IT WILL BE ABSORBED BY YOUR BOOSTED GEAR.
IS THAT EVEN POSSI-BLE...?

I SEE THE UPCOMING CONFERENCE AS A CHANCE FOR THE THREE GREAT POWERS TO MAKE PEACE.
BUT WHY'M I GETTING SOMETHING SO IMPORTANT ...?
YOUR SACRED GEAR RESPONDS TO YOUR DESIRES. SHOULD YOU WILL IT, IT CAN BE DONE.
AZAZEL DOES NOT SEEK ANOTHER WAR EITHER, OR AT LEAST HE CLAIMS NOT TO. HENCE THIS CHANCE.
IN THE WAR, WE LOST OUR GOD, THE CREATOR. THE DEVILS LOST THEIR FORMER DEVIL KINGS, AND THE FALLEN ANGELS ALSO SUFFERED HEAVY CASUALTIES.
IN RETURN, THE DEVILS HAVE DONATED TO US A NUMBER OF THE RUMORED HOLY DEVIL SWORDS.
THIS HOLY SWORD IS A GIFT FROM US ANGELS TO THE DEVILS. NATURALLY, WE'VE ALSO GIVEN TO THE FALLEN ANGEL CAUSE.
HMM?
TO SAY NOTHING OF OUR FEAR OF *OTHER FACTIONS*.
IF THE CURRENT, SMALL-SCALE CONFLICTS CONTINUE, WE ALL FACE EXTINCTION.

...WHAT'RE THOSE? FIRST I'M HEARING OF 'EM...
OTHER LEGENDARY FACTIONS ARE WRITTEN OF IN THE BIBLE.
...SO THE THREE POWERS WANNA MAKE PEACE AT THIS CONFERENCE... BUT WHAT ABOUT THESE "OTHER" POWERS...?
NORMALLY THEY WOULDN'T DARE REACH BEYOND THEIR OWN TERRITORY, BECAUSE OF TACIT PEACE AGREEMENTS.
BUT WHO CAN SAY HOW THEY MIGHT REACT TO THE DEATH OF THE CHRISTIAN GOD? THE THREE GREAT POWERS HAVE AGREED TO KEEP THAT SECRET.
FOR YOU WILL NO DOUBT BE TARGETED BY KING-CLASS DRAGONS AND THE VANISHING DRAGON FROM NOW ON.
WHEN WE LEARNED THAT OUR ENEMY OF THE PAST, THE WELSH DRAGON, HAD FOUND ITS WAY INTO A DEVIL...
...WE DECIDED TO GREET YOU FORMALLY AND HAND OVER THIS GIFT AS A SIGN OF GOOD FAITH.
????

SORRY FOR BEING SO PATHETIC! I SWEAR I'M DOING MY BEST...!
GAKU (SLUMP)
THIS SEEMED THE PERFECT BIT OF ASSISTANCE FOR YOU, RUMORED TO BE HISTORY'S WEAKEST DRAGON VESSEL.
THOSE TWO INTERRUPTED OUR WAR AND THREW OUR BATTLE-FIELDS INTO CHAOS.
THE THREE POWERS DID UNITE ONCE IN THE PAST IN ORDER TO DEFEAT THE RED AND WHITE DRAGONS.
CAN I REALLY HAVE IT?
THE FINAL MODIFICA-TIONS TO THE SWORD WERE DONE HERE AT THIS VERY SHRINE.
TECHNIQUES FROM EACH FACTION WERE USED, SO EVEN A DRAGON-POWERED DEVIL LIKE YOU CAN RECEIVE IT.
IF THE HEAD HONCHO ANGEL SAYS IT WITH A SMILE, IT MUST BE TRUE...BUT CAN I REALLY TOUCH THAT SWORD? A DRAGON-SLAYING HOLY SWORD SOUNDS LIKE DOUBLE TROUBLE FOR ME!!
NOW, AS THEN, WE SUE FOR PEACE, SO WE WOULD PREFER TO HAVE THE RED DRAGON EMPEROR ON THE SIDE OF HARMONY. VERY JAPANESE OF US, NO?
NIKO (SMILE)
R-RIGHT. SURE ...

FRIEND, FOCUS YOUR THOUGHTS INTO YOUR SACRED GEAR. I WILL TAKE CARE OF THE REST.
PASHUN (SHINK)
I'M STILL NOT POSITIVE...
TSUN (TOUCH)
...I CAN FEEL THE HOLY AURA, BUT IT DOESN'T SEEM LIKE ANY NASTY ENERGY IS DAMAGING ME. MAYBE IT'S REALLY OKAY?
GU (GRAB)
LET US ALIGN THE SWORD WITH THE PULSING OF YOUR SACRED GEAR.
GUU (BREATHE)
KA (FLASH)
KUH!

...IT REALLY FUSED TO ME.
PAA (GLOW)
WELL DONE INDEED.
WITH THAT, I MUST BE OFF.
AH!
TH-THERE'S SOMETHING I WANNA SAY TO YOU.
PLEASE SAVE IT FOR THE CONFERENCE, OR PERHAPS AFTERWARD. WORRY NOT— I WILL LISTEN THEN.

SOME TEA.
TH-THANKS.
DID YOU WORK ON THE SWORD, AKENO-SAN?
YES. I PERFORMED THE RITUALS TO MODIFY ASCALON HERE AT THIS SHRINE.
WE'RE ACTUALLY ALONE TOGETHER. LEMME ASK AKENO-SAN ABOUT THAT.
CAN I ASK YOU SOME-THING?
YES, WHAT IS IT?
KOKABIEL SAID THAT YOU HAVE THE POWER OF BARAQUIEL IN YOU, AKENO-SAN...
SO DOES THAT MEAN A FALLEN ANGEL COMMANDER IS YOUR ...?

...YES. MY MOTHER WAS HUMAN, AND MY FATHER WAS BARAQUIEL, AN OFFICER OF THE FALLEN ANGELS.
MY MOTHER WAS A SHRINE MAIDEN, AND ONE DAY, SHE SAVED THE FALLEN ANGEL BARAQUIEL, WHO HAD BEEN WOUNDED IN BATTLE—
THE BOND THEY FORMED THAT DAY LED TO MY CONCEPTION.
THESE CORRUPTED WINGS...I HATED THEM SO MUCH I CHOSE TO BECOME A DEVIL. BUT NOW, WITH THE FALLEN ANGEL WINGS I WAS BORN WITH AND THESE DEVIL WINGS AS WELL, I'M AN EVEN MORE REPULSIVE BEING...
FU-FU-FU. I SUPPOSE IT'S FITTING THOUGH, FOR ONE WITH SULLIED BLOOD FLOWING THROUGH HER VEINS.

WELL, ISSEI-KUN? YOU HATE FALLEN ANGELS, YES?
THEY KILLED BOTH YOU AND ASIA-CHAN, AND THEY THREATENED TO DESTROY THIS CITY. I DON'T IMAGINE YOU HAVE ANY POSITIVE FEELINGS FOR THEM.
...I DO HATE FALLEN ANGELS...
...RIGHT.
.....!
I THOUGHT SO...
BUT I LIKE YOU, AKENO-SAN.

...NO. THAT JUST MAKES ME...THE WORST KIND OF WOMAN.
BUT I HAVE FALLEN ANGEL BLOOD IN ME. HOW ARE YOU OKAY WITH THAT? MAYBE I ONLY TRIED GETTING CLOSE TO YOU BECAUSE I DIDN'T WANT YOU HATING ME.
I MIGHT HATE FALLEN ANGELS, YEAH, BUT EVEN IF THEIR BLOOD'S IN YOU, YOU'RE STILL JUST AKENO-SAN...
I DON'T CARE ABOUT ANY OF THAT. IN THE END, YOU'RE MY KIND SENPAI, AKENO-SAN.
OH BOY. WHAT AM I SAYING?
...SORRY. I MUST SOUND LIKE SUCH A SENSITIVE SAP.
SO I STILL LIKE YOU. NOTHING'S CHANGED.

DID I INSULT HER? HOW COULD YOU MAKE A GIRL CRY, ISSEI!?
CRAP ...oo!
...YOU KNOW JUST WHAT TO SAY.
PORO (DRIP)
...AND NOW THAT YOU HAVE...
...I FEEL AS THOUGH I CAN REALLY BE SERIOUS WITH YOU...
BA (LEAP)
A-AKENO-SAN...!?

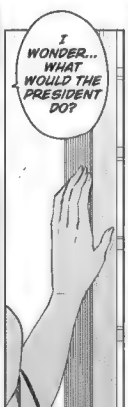
I'VE DECIDED.
YOU LIKE RIAS, RIGHT, ISSEI-KUN?
EH!? UHM. Y-YEAH. OF COURSE I DO!
...OF COURSE. I KNOW SHE'S SERIOUS TOO, SO BEING YOUR ONE AND ONLY IS OUT OF THE QUESTION FOR ME.
AND THEN ASIA-CHAN IS ALSO IN THE RUNNING... FIRST AND SECOND PLACE ARE ALREADY LOCKED DOWN.
F-FIRST? SECOND ...??
ISSEI-KUN.
GUI (TUG)
Y-YES'M !?
I'M FINE WITH BEING THIRD.
...THIRD?

U-FU-FU. WON'T YOU LET ME SPOIL YOU MORE, ISSEI-KUN? I'LL EVEN PROVIDE YOU WITH A LAP PILLOW IN THE PRESIDENT'S STEAD.
EH!? S-SERIOUSLY!?
YES, THIRD. I ACTUALLY DON'T THINK IT'S A BAD POSITION. THE "FORBIDDEN LOVE" ASPECT FIRES ME UP.
UZU
UZU (EAGER)
I-I CAN'T GO ACTING SO INFORMALLY WITH YOU, SENPAI!
AND ISSEI— JUST CALL ME AKENO.
GOKURI (GULP)
A..... AKENO ...
...JUST ONCE, THEN. PLEASE.

...THAT MAKES ME SO HAPPY, ISSEI...
HOW ABOUT YOU GO WITH JUST "AKENO" WHENEVER IT'S JUST THE TWO OF US?
SURE, AKENO-SAN IS THE VICE PRESIDENT AND AN OLDER WOMAN, BUT WHEN SHE TREATS ME LIKE THIS, I CAN'T HELP BUT SEE HER IN A NEW LIGHT, AS AN ORDINARY GIRL!
AKENO-SAN'S SO CUTE!
NADE なで
NADE (RUB) なで
WHOOOOA! THIS IS MY THIRD LAP PILLOW EVER! FIRST THE PRESIDENT, THEN ASIA, AND NOW MY BELOVED AKENO-SAN. I'M OVERCOME WITH EMOTION!
U-FU-FU. LOOKS AS THOUGH I'VE STOLEN ONE OF RIAS'S EXCLUSIVE RIGHTS.

YEAH, ISH DA BEST...!
IT PUTS ME IN THE MOOD TO DO SOMETHING NAUGHTY...DOES THIS FEEL GOOD, ISSEI-KUN?
NADE
AKENO-SAN'S THIGHS ARE SO FREAKING SOFT, I FEEL SO SNUG...
NADE

HMM, ISSEI?
BIKU (JOLT)


I WONDER... WHAT WOULD THE PRESIDENT DO?

BUT WHEN I THINK WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF THE PRESIDENT CAUGHT US LIKE THIS...
ZO (SHUDDER)

P-
P-P-P-
PRESI-
DENT!
GO
GRUMBLE
TH-
THIS IS,
UM...!
I CAN
NEVER BE
TOO CAREFUL...
REALLY? A LAP
PILLOW OTHER
THAN MY OWN
...?

ZUN
ZUN (STOMP)
BIKU (SCARED)
ZUN
SO WHERE'S THAT SWORD?
PUNK (PINCH)
GOB IT ALREBY!
KURU (TURN)
OYUUUUU! (TUG)
AND MICHAEL?
F-FHE REFT.
THEN YOU'RE DONE HERE! GO HOME!

I'M EVER SO JEALOUS THAT YOU'RE THE TOP CONTENDER, PRESIDENT RIAS.
...!
GRIP
...HEY, ISSEI.
Y-YEAH?
AKENO IS JUST... AKENO TO YOU.
HUH?

SHE'S THE VICE PRESIDENT, YES, BUT STILL AKENO. ...WHAT ABOUT ME?
YOU'RE THE PRESI-DENT... BUT SO WHAT?
.....RIGHT. I'M THE PRESIDENT. BUT ALSO "RIAS."
YUP. PRESIDENT, YOU'RE RIAS GREMORY— MY MASTER AND A HIGH-CLASS DEVIL...RIGHT, PRESIDENT?
...SOME "TOP CONTENDER" I AM...YOU'RE MORE DISTANT WITH ME THAN WITH ANYONE ELSE...!

ALWAYS ITCHING FOR A FIGHT... HOW TYPICAL FOR ONE POSSESSED BY A DRAGON. YOU'RE NOT THE TYPE TO LIVE LONG.
...HEY, AZAZEL. WE'RE NOT GOING TO WAR ANYMORE?
THAT'S THE WHITE DRAGON EMPEROR FOR YOU. AND AFTER YOU BEAT THE STRONGEST GUYS OUT THERE, WHAT NEXT?
パシン (SNIP)
INTO A WORLD WITH NO GOD... I WANTED TO TRY KILLING HIM.
THAT'S FINE. A LONG LIFE DOESN'T INTEREST ME. IT'S JUST A SHAME I WAS BORN IN THIS ERA.
I HAVE NO INTEREST IN SUCH A DULL WORLD.
—DEATH.

HIGH SCHOOL
DxD

HIGH SCHOOL
DxD

LIFE 44:
THE TOP CONFERENCE BEGINS!

DON'T GIVE ME THAT WEAK SHIT! WE'RE OUT HERE TO MAKE OUR DREAMS COME TRUE!
GUHH... ISSEI-SENPAI... I'M SO TIRED...
I'M HELPING TOO, SO LET'S DO OUR BEST, ISSEI-SAN, GASPARD-KUN!
I CAN'T WAIT FOR GASPARD TO GAIN FULL CONTROL OVER HIS TIME STOPPING SO I CAN GROPE THOSE FROZEN GIRLS!
I'VE ALREADY DONE A WRITE-UP ON THE ACADEMY'S TOP GIRLS AND MADE A SCHEDULE!

ASIA'S BOOBS ARE ALSO COMING ALONG NICELY... KUH-FU-FU...
MUNI (SQUISH)
むに、
NOTHING BUT DIRTY MOTIVES BEHIND THIS TRAINING, BUT ASIA'S HELPING 'COS SHE PROBABLY THINKS I'M JUST FIRED UP ABOUT TAKING CARE OF MY LITTLE KOUHAI. I ALMOST FEEL BAD ABOUT IT...
HERE'S ANOTHER BALL, ISSEI-KUN!
O-OH...
OKAAAY! GASPARD! THINK FAST!
BA (CHUDO)
Y-YES, SIIIR!
PIKIIIN (FREEZE)
HUH?
BAWU (WHAP)
BAKI (CRACK)
EEEPS!

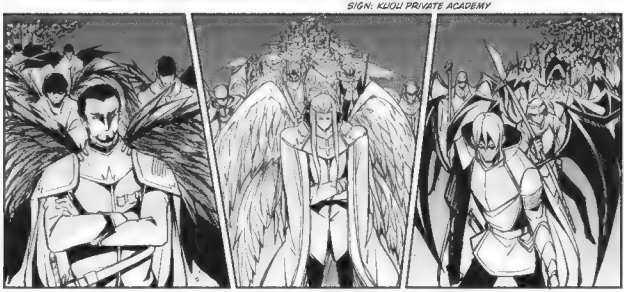
LIKE I SAID, DON'T BE WORRIED ABOUT FREEZING ME.
YOU'RE NEW AT THIS, AND IT'S JUST TRAINING. FAILURE'S ONLY NATURAL!
AND HONESTLY, YOU'VE ALREADY IMPROVED. SO LET'S KEEP GOING!
E-EEK! I-I'M SORRYYYY!
BA (PWUMP)
ば

...BECAUSE RIGHT NOW, I'M GOOD FOR NOTHING...
...I-I'M A HALF-HUMAN, HALF-VAMPIRE WITH A SACRED GEAR. JUST A DUMMY CAUSING TROUBLE FOR EVERYONE...I-I NEED TO FIGURE OUT THIS POWER OF MINE...

I'VE GOT NOTHING AGAINST EITHER OF 'EM!
GASPARD!
BUT WHO CARES HOW AKENO-SAN AND GASPARD WERE BORN?
COME TO THINK OF IT...HE'S KINDA LIKE AKENO-SAN. A HALF-BREED BORN BETWEEN TWO SPECIES. HE'S GOT DOUBTS AND MISGIVINGS ABOUT HIS OWN EXISTENCE...

I LIKE YOU, KID! YOU'RE MY KOUHAI AND FELLOW MEMBER OF THE GREMORY PEERAGE!
DON (BAM)
SO STOP MOPING AND JUST COME AT ME, LIKE, "WHAM"!
SENPAI ...
I-I'LL TRY MY BEST...!
YEAH! WE'VE GOT TIME FOR ANOTHER HUNDRED BALLS BEFORE CLASSES START!
GASPARD'S DEFINITELY COMING ALONG WITH HIS ABILITY, AND IT'S THANKS, IN PART, TO AZAZEL'S ON-THE-MARK ADVICE...
O-OKAY. LET ME PUT ON MY BAG AND POWER UP...
GASA (RUSTLE)
NOT IN FRONT OF ASIA! TOO SCARY!
?
I BET WE'D ALL GET A LOT STRONGER WITH A TEACHER LIKE HIM AROUND ...

SIGN: KUOU PRIVATE ACADEMY



LET'S GO NOW.
I GET THAT THE BARRIER'S NOT GONNA LET ANYONE IN, BUT LOOK AT THEM ALL OUT THERE...
FEELS LIKE THE SLIGHTEST THING COULD SET THEM OFF.

GASPARD. THIS IS AN IMPORTANT MEETING. IT'D BE BAD IF YOUR SACRED GEAR MISFIRED. SO HANG BACK HERE, OKAY?
P-PRESIDENT! Y-YOU GUYYYS!
I'VE GOT SOME VIDEO GAMES AND SNACKS FOR YOU TO ENJOY.
AND USE THAT PAPER BAG IF YOU START FEELING SAD.
TEPE (BLUSH)
G-GUESS SO!
YOU SURE KNOW HOW TO LOOK AFTER HIM, ISSEI-KUN.
O-OKAAAY!
HA (BREAK)

会議室
PARDON US.
SIGN: CONFERENCE ROOM

MY YOUNGER SISTER AND HER PEERAGE.
THEY FOUND THEMSELVES INVOLVED WITH THE RECENT ATTACK BY KOKABIEL.
HMPH...
SORRY FOR THE TROUBLE KOKABIEL CAUSED.
PLEASE BE SEATED.
IT APPEARS EVERYONE IS ASSEMBLED.

ALL HERE TODAY ARE AWARE OF THE HIGHLY CLASSIFIED TRUTH—THAT GOD IS DEAD. WE WILL BEGIN OUR TALKS WITH THAT AS A GIVEN.
AND THAT'S HOW THE THREE GREAT POWERS CONFERENCE BEGAN.
AS SUCH, WE ANGELS—
WELL, WE'RE NOT PARTICULARLY CONCERNED ABOUT THAT.
RIGHT. AT THIS RATE, YOU'RE ON THE PATH TO RUIN—
NEVER THOUGHT IT'D BE THIS PEACEFUL. THEY'RE ACTUALLY PLAYING NICE...
HM?

KUSU (GIGGLE)
My, my. Getting romantic, even during the conference ...?
NO WONDER SHE'S NERVOUS AT A BIG, FANCY MEETING LIKE THIS...
RIGHT. PRETTY SOON THE PRESIDENT HAS TO REPORT ON THAT ATTACK.

What an honor! If it's my courage you need, take as much as you want!
I'm just getting some courage via Issei's hand. It's the best method there is.

YES, LUCIFER-SAMA.
WELL, RIAS. COULD YOU TELL US ABOUT THE EVENTS OF THE OTHER DAY?
HMM. GLAD TO SEE THAT THE PRESIDENT AND AKENO-SAN MADE UP AT SOME POINT. I KNOW THE PRESIDENT WAS AT A LOSS OVER WHAT HAPPENED AT THE SHRINE, BUT I GUESS SHE'S OKAY NOW...

THAT'S ALL.
THANK YOU. BE SEATED.
WELL. WOULD THE FALLEN ANGEL GOVERNOR-GENERAL CARE TO COMMENT?
THE RECENT INCIDENT WAS CAUSED BY THE INDEPENDENT ACTIONS OF KOKABIEL, AN OFFICER IN THE FALLEN ANGELS' CENTRAL ORGANIZATION, GRIGORI.
THE WHITE DRAGON EMPEROR TOOK CARE OF HIM.
AFTERWARD, THE ORGANIZATION DECIDED TO IMPRISON HIM FOREVER IN THE FROZEN DEPTHS OF COCYTUS. HE WON'T BE COMING BACK.
I BELIEVE EVERYTHING I JUST MENTIONED IS ON THE HANDOUT YOU ALL RECEIVED. THERE'S NOTHING MORE TO SAY.

SUCH AN EXPLANATION IS THE LEAST YOU OWED US. BUT WHAT OF YOU, PERSONALLY? DID YOU HOPE TO STIR UP TROUBLE?
NAH. I'VE GOT NO INTEREST IN STARTING A WAR.
THE REPORT SHOULD ALSO MENTION THE NOT-SO-NICE THINGS KOKABIEL HAD TO SAY ABOUT ME.
I MAY BE CRAZY ABOUT SACRED GEARS, BUT I'M NO WAR-MONGER.
...AZAZEL. I'VE JUST GOT ONE QUESTION FOR YOU—
OVER THESE PAST FEW DECADES... WHY HAVE YOU BEEN GATHERING SACRED GEAR USERS?

LIFE45:
IT'S AN EMERGENCY!?
I'LL HEAD OUT TOO!!

OVER THESE PAST FEW DECADES... WHY HAVE YOU BEEN GATHERING SACRED GEAR USERS?
WHEN YOU STARTED AMASSING HUMANS AND BOLSTERING YOUR FORCES, WE THOUGHT FOR SURE THAT YOU MUST BE PLANNING TO WAGE WAR ON EITHER HEAVEN OR US DEVILS.
INDEED. BUT YEARS PASSED, AND YOU NEVER MADE A MOVE.
WE WERE ALL PUT ON HIGH ALERT AFTER THE NEWS CAME THAT YOU HAD ACQUIRED THE VANISHING DRAGON.
JUST RE-SEARCH-ING SACRED GEARS.
WANT ME TO FORWARD YOU GUYS SOME OF MY FINDINGS?
I'M FAR TOO BUSY WITH THAT SORT OF WORK TO WAGE WAR. BATTLES NO LONGER HOLD ANY INTEREST TO ME.

I'M GOOD WITH THE WORLD AS IT IS.
I'VE EVEN TOLD MY LACKEYS NOT TO INTERFERE WITH THE POLITICS OF THE HUMAN REALM.
WE'RE NOT INTERVENING IN RELIGIOUS MATTERS EITHER. OR THE DEVILS' WORK.
—GEEZ! IF YOU ASK ME, I'D SAY I'M THE LEAST-TRUSTED ONE IN THIS THREE-WAY ARRANGE-MENT.
YOU WOULDN'T BE WRONG.
IT'S TRUE! ☆
QUITE RIGHT.
TCH!
DIDN'T THINK IT WAS POSSIBLE, BUT YOU LOT ARE EVEN MORE ANNOYING THAN GOD AND THE LAST LUCIFER.
SO MY SECRET RESEARCH DOESN'T JIVE WITH YOU ALL?
FINE.

LET'S MAKE PEACE.
THAT'S WHY WE'RE HERE TODAY, ISN'T IT?

YES. I'M SHOCKED THAT AZAZEL'S THE FIRST TO BRING IT UP...
KINDA FEELS LIKE I'M WATCHING A HISTORIC MOMENT HERE.
PEACE... SO EVERYONE JUST WANTS TO GET ALONG...?
...FOR THE LAST WAR SAW THE LOSS OF OUR PILLARS— GOD AND THE DEVIL KINGS.
DEADLOCKED THOUGH IT IS, SHOULD THE CURRENT RELATIONSHIP CONTINUE, THE WORLD WILL SUFFER FOR IT. I SAY THIS AS THE LEADER OF THE ANGELS...
INDEED, I CAME WITH THE INTENTION OF MAKING PEACE WITH THE DEVILS AND GRIGORI.
...AND THOSE LOSSES WERE GREAT ONES.
HOWEVER, THERE'S LITTLE USE IN PINING OVER WHAT IS GONE.
HA! EVEN THE STUBBORN MICHAEL'S OPENING UP.

WATCHING OVER AND GUIDING THE CHILDREN OF GOD IS OUR HOLY MISSION, AND WE SERAPHS ARE IN AGREEMENT.
WHAT? ABOUT THE WORLD FALLING APART?
WITH THE "SYSTEM" YOU GUYS INHERITED, THE WORLD ISN'T SUCH A BAD PLACE. NOTHING LIKE BACK WHEN WE "FELL."
WE AGREE. FOR THE GOOD OF OUR KIND, DEVILS MUST LOOK TO THE FUTURE.
LIKEWISE, WE DO NOT SEEK WAR. ANOTHER WAR WOULD MEAN THE END OF ALL DEVILS.

RIGHT. IT'D BE MUTUAL DESTRUCTION FOR ALL THREE SIDES.
AND THE EFFECTS ON THE HUMAN REALM WOULD ESSENTIALLY RESULT IN THE END OF THE WORLD. SO THAT'S NOT A WAR WE WANT TO START.
YOU THINK A WORLD WITHOUT GOD IS REALLY SO BAD? THAT IT'S ROTTING AWAY SOMEHOW?
SORRY, BUT YOU'RE WRONG. LOOK AT ALL OF US HERE. WE'RE DOING JUST FINE.
—GOD MAY BE DEAD, BUT THE WORLD KEEPS TURNING.

R-RIGHT.
THE THING I'VE BEEN WANTING TO ASK FOR A WHILE NOW...

—THAT SETTLES IT.
NOW, WITH THAT SIZABLE ISSUE OUT OF THE WAY, PERHAPS WE COULD HEAR FROM THE RED DRAGON EMPEROR, TO WHOM I PROMISED A MOMENT OF MY TIME.

FOR THAT, I CAN ONLY OFFER MY DEEPEST REGRETS...

ASIA BELIEVED IN GOD WITH ALL SHE HAD, SO WHY'D YOU KICK HER OUT OF THE CHURCH?

POWERED BY FAITH, THE SYSTEM COULD BRING ABOUT MIRACLES ON EARTH. HOLY DEVIL-EXORCISING WEAPONS AND TOOLS ARE GRANTED POTENCY BY THAT SAME SYSTEM.
...AFTER GOD PASSED, ALL THAT WAS LEFT WAS THE SYSTEM GOVERNING DIVINE PROTECTION, COMPASSION, AND MIRACLES.

YES. TRUTHFULLY, MANAGING THE SYSTEM IS QUITE DIFFICULT FOR US WITHOUT GOD.
ISN'T THE SYSTEM OUT OF WHACK NOW THAT GOD'S DEAD...?
I CURRENTLY LEAD THE OTHER SERAPHS IN RUNNING IT, BUT DIVINE PROTECTION AND COMPASSION ARE WEAK COMPARED TO THE DAYS OF GOD'S REIGN.
SADLY, THE NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS WHO CAN BE OFFERED SALVATION IS LIMITED.
AS SUCH, THE CHURCH HAS HAD TO DISTANCE ITSELF FROM ANY WHO MIGHT NEGATIVELY AFFECT THE SYSTEM.
FOR INSTANCE, THOSE WITH CERTAIN TYPES OF SACRED GEARS, LIKE YOUR "BOOSTED GEAR" OR "DIVINE DIVIDING"—
ALSO ...
...ASIA ARGENTO'S "TWILIGHT HEALING."
IS THE PROBLEM WITH ASIA THAT HER SACRED GEAR CAN HEAL FALLEN ANGELS AND DEVILS?

KNOWING THAT GOD IS DEAD—
RIGHT?
ONE CAPABLE OF HEALING SUCH BEINGS COULD AFFECT THE FAITH OF THOSE AROUND HER.
BESIDES WHICH, THERE'S ALSO THE MATTER OF—
THAT FAITH IS THE LIFEBLOOD OF US DENIZENS OF HEAVEN, SO SHE COULD NOT REMAIN IN THE ORGANIZATION.
...YES, XENOVIA.
WE HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO LABEL YOU AND ASIA ARGENTO AS HERETICS.
FOR THAT, I AM SORRY.

YOU REALLY NEEDN'T APOLOGIZE, MICHAEL-SAMA.
THAT YOU FELT FORCED TO BECOME A DEVIL IS ALSO OUR SIN.
IT'S QUITE ALL RIGHT... I HAD SOME REGRETS, BUT THE WORLD HAS OPENED TO ME SINCE LEAVING THE CHURCH. MY EVERYDAY LIFE IS FULL OF WONDER AND JOY.
IT MIGHT ANGER IRINA... AND THE OTHER ADHERENTS TO HEAR, BUT I'M SATISFIED WITH THIS LIFE.
MICHAEL-SAMA, I'M ALSO QUITE HAPPY NOW...
I HAVE SO MANY PEOPLE WHO ARE DEAR TO ME.

I APPRECIATE THE GENEROSITY IN YOUR HEARTS.
WE LEAVE DURANDAL TO YOU, XENOVIA. FAR BETTER IT BE WITHIN THE PEERAGE OF SIRZECHS-DONO'S SISTER THAN USED FOR ILL BY OTHERS.
I RECEIVED A REPORT SAYING THAT SOME OF MY PEOPLE TRICKED AND KILLED THAT GIRL.
BIKU (TWITCH)
YEAH. ASIA DIED, Y'KNOW.
GI (GRIND)
I DID TOO.
IT MIGHT'VE HAPPENED WITHOUT YOUR KNOWLEDGE, BUT OUR KILLER WAS A FALLEN ANGEL GIRL WHO LOOKED UP TO YOU!
AUH!!
GU! (GRIP)
CALM DOWN, ISSEI.

THAT A PROB-LEM?
THANKS TO THAT, I'M A DEVIL NOW.
SPECIFICALLY, THE ONES WHO, UNABLE TO CONTROL THEIR ABILITIES, MIGHT'VE RAMPAGED AND WREAKED DESTRUCTION. YOU ARE NO EXCEPTION.
IT'S TRUE THAT WE FALLEN ANGELS DISPOSED OF SOME SACRED GEAR USERS.
N-NOT AT ALL! E-EVERY-ONE GAVE ME A WARM WELCOME... BUT...!
WANT FOR THE WORLD...?
...I DON'T GET WHAT YOU'RE ASKING.
THEN YOU, VARY. WHAT DO YOU SAY, AS THE WHITE DRAGON EMPEROR?
AS THE RED DRAGON EMPEROR, WHAT DO YOU WANT FOR THIS WORLD?
ON THAT NOTE, LET ME ASK YOU SOMETHING.
THEN ANY APOLOGY FROM ME WOULD COME TOO LATE. INSTEAD, I'LL CHOOSE TO OFFER YOU MY SERVICES AS ONLY I CAN.
...?

I JUST WANT TO FIGHT THE STRONG.
ISSEI HYOUDOU, YOU HAVE WITHIN YOU A HIDDEN POWER CAPABLE OF SHAKING THE WORLD. IF YOU DON'T MAKE A DECISION, YOU'LL BE PUTTING EACH POWER IN A TRICKY SPOT, STARTING WITH ME.
IF WE GO TO WAR, YOU'LL BE FORCED TO STAND ON THE FRONT LINES.
YOUR DAYS OF ROMPING AROUND WITH RIAS GREMORY WILL BE OVER.
—!?

BUT IF WE MAKE PEACE... WITH NO WAR, THE TOP PRIORITY BECOMES THE PROPAGATION OF YOUR SPECIES. YOU'D GET TO WORK AT THAT EVERY DAY WITH RIAS GREMORY.
WAR MEANS NO SEX FOR YOU. NOT A HARD CHOICE, I'D SAY. SO WHAT'LL IT BE?
I'LL TAKE ONE ORDER OF PEACE, PLEASE! YEAH! PEACE IS THE BEST!!
BA (WHIP)
I WANNA DO DIRTY THINGS WITH THE PRESIDENT!!
KAAA~ (BLUSH)
MY, MY.
ISSEI-KUN, SIRZECHS-SAMA IS RIGHT HERE, YOU KNOW?

UMM... I'M KIND OF AN IDIOT, SO I DON'T GET ABOUT 90% OF WHAT'S GOING ON AT THIS MEETING.
BUT WHAT I CAN SAY IS THAT I'LL USE THIS POWER IN ME TO HELP MY FRIENDS AND ALLIES. IF THEY'RE THREATENED, I'LL PROTECT 'EM...!

じ～と
JITOOO (STARE)
AH...

...I'M STILL PRETTY WEAK, BUT I'LL GO ALL OUT IF IT MEANS I GET TO KEEP ENJOYING LIFE WITH ALL OF THEM.

PITA (PRESSED)

ACK!
GOOD. YOU'RE BACK.
...HUH?
I'M ONLY SORRY I COULDN'T PROTECT EVERY-ONE.
MY BODY SOMEHOW SENSED THE IMPENDING TIME STOP, SO THE INSTANT BEFORE IT HAPPENED, I THOUGHT I MIGHT BE ABLE TO USE DURANDAL'S POWER AS A SHIELD. I WAS CORRECT.
KIRI (SHINE)
WH-WHAT JUST HAPPENED?
LOOKS LIKE ISSEI, YUUTO, AND XENOVIA ARE THE ONLY SERVANTS OF MINE WHO CAN MOVE.
SO IT REALLY WAS A TIME STOP.. PRESIDENT, DOES THAT MEAN...?
IT SEEMS LI—
THOSE STILL FROZEN WILL BE LOOKED AFTER IN ANOTHER ROOM, BUT I'M GLAD YOU'RE UP AGAIN, ISSEI.

ZUDON (KABOOM)
WHOA! WUZZAT!?
ZUN
ZU (SWIRL)
ZU
IN EVERY ERA, WHENEVER THE POWERS SUE FOR PEACE, YOU CAN BE SURE THERE'LL BE SOME WHO GET IN THE WAY.
TERRORISTS.

...JUDGING BY THE POWER THEY'RE PUTTING OUT, I'D GUESS THAT EACH HAS MAGICAL ABILITIES COMPARABLE TO A MID-LEVEL DEVIL.
THE LEGENDARY MAGICIAN MERLIN AMBROSIUS UNRAVELED AND RECONSTRUCTED THE SYSTEM OF MAGIC USED BY DEVILS, RESULTING IN ALL THE OTHER MAGICS OF THE WORLD.
IN THIS CASE, THEY'RE SORCERERS.

THEY SHOULDN'T BE ABLE TO DAMAGE US HERE, THANKS TO THE STRONG DEFENSIVE BARRIER THAT SIRZECHS, MICHAEL, AND I PUT UP.
BUT IT DOES SEEM LIKE WE'RE STUCK IN HERE, THEN...
HOW'D THEY STOP TIME THOUGH ...?
I'M THINKING THEY FORCED "FORBIDDEN BALOR VIEW" INTO ITS BALANCE BREAKER MODE USING EITHER MAGIC OR A POWER-TRANSFERRING SACRED GEAR.
THE BALANCE BREAKER FORM IS ONLY TEMPORARY, BUT IT WOULD LET HIM FREEZE EVERYTHING IN SIGHT...
I GUESS THAT LITTLE HALF-VAMPIRE HAD GREAT POTENTIAL POWER, EVEN IF HE COULDN'T FREEZE US.
SO THEY'RE USING GASPARD AGAINST HIS WILL...
BUNA (BURST)
THE TERRORISTS ARE IN THE OLD SCHOOL BUILDING, USING GASPARD AS A WEAPON... I'VE NEVER BEEN SO HUMILIATED!

LOOKS LIKE OUR FORCES STATIONED OUTSIDE ARE ALL FROZEN TOO. YOUR PEERAGE IS FRIGHTFULLY STRONG.
VUN (HUMM)
VUN
VUN
PUT UP YOUR DEFENSIVE SEALS!
SPEARS OF LIGHT!
DO
DO
DO
DO
DO
PAKIIN (CRACK)
GAH HAH!
PIERCE!
ZU (GU)
WOW! TOOK 'EM DOWN IN A FLASH!

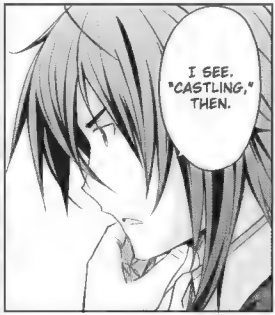
THEY'RE APPEARING INSIDE THE BARRIER.
IF THEY MANAGE TO POWER UP FORBIDDEN BALOR VIEW ANY MORE, IT MIGHT EVEN FREEZE ONE OF US, WHO ERECTED THIS BARRIER.
GIVEN HOW INTENSELY THEY'RE CONCENTRATED HERE, I'D SAY THEY'RE READY TO SLAUGHTER US ALL THE SECOND THE BARRIER GOES DOWN.
THAT MEANS ONE OF THEM MUST HAVE MADE A GATE CONNECTING THIS TERRITORY TO THE OUTSIDE.
SIGN: KUJOU PRIVATE ACADEMY
THEY'VE DEDICATED A CONSIDERABLE FORCE TO THIS ATTACK.
LOOK— REINFORCEMENTS. AS SOON AS ONE WAVE FALLS, ANOTHER APPEARS.
GIVEN THESE TERRORISTS' TIMING AND TACTICS, IT'S ALMOST LIKE THEY KNOW WHO'S HERE AND WHY.
MAYBE WE'VE GOT A TRAITOR IN OUR MIDST?
A TRAITOR? HERE...? DON'T SAY SCARY SHIT LIKE THAT.

AS LONG AS THE BARRIER AROUND THE SCHOOL IS ACTIVE, WE CAN'T LEAVE.
AND TAKING DOWN THE BARRIER COULD BRING HARM TO THE HUMAN REALM...
CAN'T WE GET AWAY SOMEHOW?
WE LEADERS SHOULD BIDE OUR TIME UNTIL MORE IS KNOWN, BUT THE TOP PRIORITY IS SECURING GASPARD-KUN FROM THE TERRORISTS IN THE OLD SCHOOL BUILDING, WHICH SEEMS TO BE THEIR BASE OF OPERATIONS.
I SAY WE WAIT FOR THE COMMANDER TO SHOW HIMSELF.
IF WE ENDURE THE SIEGE, HE'LL PROBABLY GET IMPATIENT AND MAKE A MOVE.
MY SERVANT IS MY RESPONSI-BILITY. I'LL GET HIM BACK.
ONII-SAMA, LET ME DO IT.

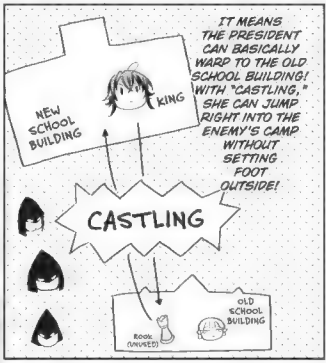
I HAVE MY UNUSED "ROOK" PIECE STORED IN THE CLUBROOM OVER THERE.

I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT SAY THAT. BUT THE WAY THERE IS CRAWLING WITH SORCERERS. WHAT'S YOUR PLAN?

I REMEMBER THAT FROM STUDYING FOR THE RATING GAME.
"CASTLING"— THE TRICK WHERE THE "KING" AND "ROOK" SWITCH PLACES.


I SEE. "CASTLING," THEN.

GRAYFIA. IF MY MAGIC FORMULA IS APPLIED, CAN "CASTLING" TRANSFER MORE THAN ONE PERSON?
YES. YOU CAN CATCH THE ENEMY OFF GUARD, BUT GOING ALONE IS RECKLESS.


IT MEANS THE PRESIDENT CAN BASICALLY WARP TO THE OLD SCHOOL BUILDING! WITH "CASTLING," SHE CAN JUMP RIGHT INTO THE ENEMY'S CAMP WITHOUT SETTING FOOT OUTSIDE!
NEW SCHOOL BUILDING
KING
CASTLING
OLD SCHOOL BUILDING
ROOK (UNUSED)

RIAS AND ONE OTHER, THEN...
I CAN'T PERFORM COMPLICATED RITUALS IN HERE, BUT IT SHOULD BE ENOUGH TO TRANSFER MY LADY AND ONE ADDITIONAL TRAVELER.
YES, IT CAN...
VUN CHUMMO
...
GU GOGOGO
I'M GOING TOO!
SIR-ZECHS-SAMA!

HIGH SCHOOL
DxD

HIGH SCHOOL
DxD

LIFE46:
KHAOS BRIGADE

SIRZECHS-SAMA! I'M GOING TOO!
BUT CAN YOU CONTROL THE RED DRAGON EMPEROR'S POWER?
W-WELL...
HEY. RED DRAGON EMPEROR.
TAKE THESE WITH YOU.
THESE ARMLETS CAN SUPPRESS SACRED GEAR POWERS TO AN EXTENT.
ONE'S FOR YOU...
...AND THE OTHER'S FOR THE HALF-VAMPIRE.

F-FOR REAL!? THIS TRINKET'LL LET ME USE MY BALANCE BREAKER?
KEEP IT SHORT, AND YOU SHOULD EVEN BE ABLE TO USE YOUR BALANCE BREAKER FORM WITHOUT GIVING UP A PIECE OF YOURSELF. THE ARMLET WILL ACT AS THE SACRIFICE INSTEAD.
Gu-gu-gu
BUT THE SEALS IN YOU WILL BE BROKEN AS A SIDE EFFECT. YOUR "PAWN" POWER IS SEALED AWAY, IS IT NOT?
HOW'D YOU KNOW THAT...?
YEAH. MY BASE STRENGTH ISN'T ENOUGH TO HANDLE THE EIGHT "PAWNS" IN ME, SO THE PRESIDENT SEALED OFF A PART OF THAT POWER.
SO THINK OF THIS AS A LAST RESORT. USING YOUR BALANCE BREAKER EATS AWAY AT STAMINA AND MAGIC POWER LIKE CRAZY.
ONCE YOU TRANSFER, PROMOTE YOURSELF TO "QUEEN." START FROM THERE.

G-GOT IT.
REMEMBER THIS. YOU'RE STILL LITTLE MORE THAN A HUMAN WITH A DEVILISH TINGE TO HIM.
LET THAT POWER RUN RAMPANT AND YOU'RE DEAD.

HIS LEVELHEADED ANALYSIS AND SMOOTH ADAPTABILITY IRRITATE ME, BUT I ADMIT HE'S A GREAT COACH.
HE REALLY IS LIKE A TEACHER...
WHAT?
VARY, CAN I HAVE A WORD?

PLEASE HURRY, GRAYFIA.
POWA (GLOW)
MY LADY. PLEASE COME HERE SO I CAN CONDUCT THE RITUAL.

DON'T THEY ALREADY KNOW I'M IN HERE THOUGH?
SEEING THE WHITE DRAGON EMPEROR MIGHT JUST DRAW OUT THE RING-LEADER.
YOU HEAD OUTSIDE AND GET THEIR ATTEN-TION.
NOT A GOOD OPTION WHEN WE'RE TRYING TO MAKE PEACE HERE.
GIRO (GLARE)
BUT WORSE COMES TO WORST, WE WILL.
EVEN SO, I DOUBT THEY'RE EXPECTING THE RED DRAGON EMPEROR TO ATTACK AT THEIR CORE VIA "CASTLING." IT MAY JUST PAY TO DIVIDE THEIR FOCUS.
SEEMS LIKE IT'D BE QUICKER JUST TO BLOW AWAY THE WHOLE BUILDING—TERRORISTS, HALF-VAMPIRE, AND ALL.
...OKAY, OKAY.

—BAL-
ANCE
BREAK-
ER.
VANISHING
DRAGON
BALANCE
BREAKER!!!!
DO
(WHOOOM)
GYUN
(ZOOM)
DO

AZAZEL.
SPEAKING OF YOUR SACRED GEAR RESEARCH ...
SO THAT'S HIS SACRED GEAR...LOOK HOW EASILY HE USES THE BALANCE BREAKER ...
DOGA (DOON)
DO
GA
EVEN WITH GOD DEAD, WERE YOU PLANNING ON DOING SOME GOD KILLING?
IT SEEMS YOU'VE AMASSED A NUMBER OF "LONGINUS" USERS BESIDES THE WHITE DRAGON EMPEROR.
ONCE AGAIN, I'M NOT LOOKING FOR A FIGHT WITH YOU GUYS. JUST PERSONAL PROTECTION.
PROTECTION FROM WHOM, IF NOT US?
JUST BEING PRE-PARED.
PREPARED? WHAT AN UNSETTLING THING TO SAY AFTER HAVING JUST RENOUNCED WAR.

—"THE KHAOS BRIGADE."
...KHAOS BRIGADE?
I ONLY RECENTLY LEARNED THE ORGANIZATION'S NAME AND BACKGROUND.
THEY'RE GATHERING DANGEROUS MEMBERS FROM EACH OF THE THREE POWERS.
PISH! (CRACKLE)
NASTY BUNCH OF TERROR-ISTS.
AND THEIR LEADER IS...
AND I CONFIRMED THAT THEY'VE ALREADY GOT A NUMBER OF BALANCE BREAKER AND LONGINUS USERS.
WHAT ARE THEY AFTER?
RUIN AND CHAOS. THEY'VE NO INTEREST IN PEACE ON EARTH.

OPHIS.
OURO-BOROS DRAG-ON—
PAAAA (SLOW)
YES!
GRAYFIA! TRANSPORT RIAS AND ISSEI-KUN, QUICKLY!
THAT CREST... I SEE. THESE TERRORISTS' STRING-PULLER IS...!
MY LADY... BEST OF LUCK.
W-WAIT!! GRAYFIA!? ONII-SAMA!
YUN
YU (HUMAN)
KA (FLASH)
KARAN (ROLL)

I AM KATEREA LEVIATHAN, KIN TO THE PREVIOUS LEVIATHAN...
GREETINGS, CURRENT DEVIL KING, SIRZECHS-DONO.
...THOSE WITH THE BLOOD OF THE OLD DEVIL KINGS WERE DETERMINED TO KEEP FIGHTING. I HEAR THEY WERE CHASED INTO THE SHADOWS OF THE DEVIL REALM.
MILLENNIA OF FIGHTING HAVE LEFT DEVILS ON THE ROPES. THE VERY SPECIES FACES EXTINCTION IF ANOTHER WAR BREAKS OUT, BUT...
...A RELATIVE OF A PREVIOUS DEVIL KING?
I NEVER IMAGINED YOU ALL WOULD JOIN OPHIS IN COMMITTING THESE ACTS OF TERROR.
THE MAJORITY OF US DEVIL KING DESCENDANTS HAVE DECIDED TO COOPERATE WITH OPHIS AND THE "KHAOS BRIGADE."

AS A SYMBOL OF POWER HIMSELF, HE'S PERFECTLY SUITED TO BRING DIFFERENT POWERS TOGETHER. AND BY THAT POWER, THIS WORLD WILL BE DESTROYED AND THEN REBUILT.
WE WILL BE THE ONES TO RULE OVER THAT NEW WORLD.
SO OPHIS IS YOUR PATRON, THEN?
KATEREA-SAN! WHY ARE YOU DOING THIS!?
A SHAMELESS QUESTION, SERAFALL. YOU'RE THE ONE WHO STOLE THE LEVIATHAN TITLE FROM ME!
TODAY IS THE DAY I KILL YOU AND BECOME THE RIGHTFUL DEVIL KING LEVIATHAN.
WHEN OPHIS BECOMES GOD OF THE NEW WORLD, WE WILL CREATE THE SYSTEM THAT GOVERNS IT.
YOUR ERA HAS COME TO AN END!
HEH... HEH HEH.

HA-HA-HA! SO YOU'RE GOING TO REVOLU-TIONIZE THIS WORLD?
THAT IS HOW IT SHOULD BE. AZAZEL, THIS WORLD...
...IS ROTTEN? YEAH, YEAH, THAT'S A POPULAR OPINION NOWA-DAYS.
YOUR GOAL IS AS RIDICULOUS AND HACKNEYED AS THEY COME.
WITH LINES LIKE THAT, YOU'RE BEGGING TO BE THE FIRST VILLAIN TO DIE, DESCENDANT OF LEVIATHAN.
HOW DARE YOU MOCK ME!
SIRZECHS, MICHAEL. I'LL HANDLE HER, SO STAY OUT OF IT.
NO. YOU'RE A DECENT DEVIL KING, BUT NOT THE STRONGEST.
THAT IS WHY WE SEEK TO INSTALL NEW DEVIL KINGS.
KA-PLASHO
VUU CHUMO
I SEE... WHAT A PITY.
.....I DON'T SUPPOSE YOU'LL SURRENDER, KATEREA?

DO (BURST)
GA (CLASH)
HYU (WHOOSH)
GAKII (CLANG)
I'M GONNA ENJOY THIS, AFTER ALL!
HA! THE REAL FUN BEGINS NOW!

NOW DIE!
THIS POWER ...
OPHIS'S SNAKES ?
GO (BOOM)

ZUZUN (QUAKE)
OVER AT THE NEW SCHOOL BUILDING...
THE BATTLE'S HEATING UP..
DOON (BOOM)
OKAY!
PROMOTION! "QUEEN"!!
OOOO (FOOM)
HURRY, ISSEI!
WE'RE IN ENEMY TERRITORY NOW, SO PROMOTE YOURSELF TO "QUEEN"!
BAN (BANG)
AWW YEAH! WE'LL BE RIGHT THERE, GASPARD!

P-PRESI-DENT! ISSEI-SENPAI!
—! BUT HOW!? HOW'D THEY TELEPORT INTO HERE ...?
PRESIDENT, SENPAI... PLEASE—
PRESIDENT... I'M SORRY. I'M NOTHING BUT TROUBLE FOR ALL YOU...
GASPARD! THANK GOODNESS YOU'RE SAFE.
PLEASE KILL ME.

I'M BETTER OFF DYING...
THESE EYES CAUSE SO MUCH GRIEF... I CAN'T REALLY BE FRIENDS WITH ANYONE...
DON'T BE SILLY. I'D NEVER ABANDON YOU.
REMEMBER WHAT I SAID WHEN I MADE YOU MY SERVANT?
LIVE FOR ME. BUT ALSO FIND A WAY TO LIVE THAT BRINGS YOU SATISFACTION.
...I NEVER FOUND A WAY. IF ALL I DO IS CAUSE TROUBLE, MY LIFE'S NOT WORTH ANYTH—
GASPARD! NOBODY SEES YOU AS A BURDEN!
FOOL-ISH.

LIFE47: VIEW × DRESS BREAK— THE ULTIMATE TAG TEAM!?

...HUH? THEY'RE ALL WOMEN? WITCHES? MMM... WITCHES...
I CARE TOO MUCH FOR MY OWN SERVANTS.
SO YOU GET ALL WARM AND COZY WITH YOUR SERVANTS?
IT'S JUST AS THE OLD DEVIL KING FACTION SAID. THE DEEP LOVE AND OVERWHELMING POWER HELD BY THE GREMORY CLAN ARE MATCHED ONLY BY ITS STUPIDITY.
YOU ...!
...I JUST DON'T WANNA CAUSE ANY MORE TROUBLE.
JUST HURRY UP AND KILL M—
GASPARD!
PLEASE CAUSE AS MUCH TROUBLE FOR ME AS YOU LIKE.
I'LL ALWAYS BE THERE TO SCOLD AND COMFORT YOU!
SO I'M NOT LOSING YOU HERE!

P-PRESI-DENT...
I... I...!
GASPAAAARD! DON'T RUN! DON'T FEAR! AND DON'T CRY!
BISHI (POINT)
WE'RE ALL YOUR FRIENDS, AND WE'RE NEVER ABANDONING YOU! 'COS FRIENDS DON'T DO THAT TO FRIENDS!
ASCALON!
BLADE!

YOU'RE GONNA HAVE TO TAKE THAT FIRST STEP YOURSELF.
ISSEI, WHAT'RE YOU...!?
GU (SQUEEZE)
THAT SAID, GASPARD ...
BA (WHIP)
SO STAND! NUT UP AND DO WHAT YOU GOTTA DO!
DRINK UP. MY BLOOD'S GOT DRAGON POWER IN IT.
...I'LL LEND YOU SOME OF MY POWER!
IF YOU REALLY WANNA CHANGE...
BISHA (SPLAT)
!?

DOKUN (BADUMP)
GIN (GASP)
FOR-BIDDEN BALOR VIEW.
KUH! HE TRANS-FORMED?
DA (DASH!)
FINISH THEM, ISSEI-SENPAI!
MY TURN NOW!
PITA (FREEZE)

DRESS BREAK!!
BA
BA (BURST)
BA
BA
BA
BA
...
IT'S OVER.

GASPARD, WHEN WE TEAM UP, WE'RE UNBEATABLE!
YES!
YOU STOP 'EM IN THEIR TRACKS, AND I RIP THEIR CLOTHES OFF! IT'S ALL-YOU-CAN-PEEP, ALL-YOU-CAN-GROPE BUFFET!
WE'RE INVINCIBLE. MY DREAMS HAVE COME TRUE.
WASHI
WASHI (WIGGLE)
I THINK NOT.
GUH (TUG)
THERE. NOW THAT POWER OF YOURS WON'T RUN WILD ANYMORE.
THANK YOU.
WHAT ABOUT YOUR HAND, SENPAI ...?
AHH. I'M USED TO SCRATCHES LIKE THIS.
PLUS, ASCALON'S HOLY POWER WAS TUNED DOWN.

NICE JOB WITH THAT QUICK THINKING, ISSEI.
I FELT A SUDDEN SURGE OF POWER... BUT I'M BACK TO NORMAL NOW.
SO HOW'D YOU LIKE MY BLOOD?
YEAH. THAT WAS... SOME ADVICE FROM HIM...
ANYWAY, WHO'S THIS OPHIS?
OURO-BOROS DRAGON OPHIS.
SAID TO BE THE STRONGEST OF THE DRAGONS...
HEY, DDRAIG. IS HE EVEN STRONGER THAN YOU AND ALBION...?

AND THIS DUDE IS LEADING THESE TERROR-ISTS. GEEZ...
HE'S THE ONLY ONE WHO SURPASSES THE TWO OF US. THE STRONGEST BEING IN THE WORLD, IN FACT.
YOU FOR REAL !?
INDEED. STRONGER THAN GOD EVEN. HE'S A TRUE MONSTER WHO WIELDS NEAR-INFINITE POWER.
OKAY!
EVERYONE MUST BE WORRIED. LET'S HEAD BACK!
(WHOOSH)
I HOPE YOU'RE PREPARED FOR THIS, AZAZEL.

...TCH. THE INTENSITY AND NATURE OF THAT AURA'S SOMETHING SPECIAL.
I'M GUESSING YOU GOT IT FROM OPHIS?
YES. HE'S A DRAGON WITH UNLIMITED ENERGY, AND HE DONATED A SMALL PIECE OF IT TO OUR WORLD REVOLUTION.
FOR MY FIRST ACT IN THE CREATION OF THAT NEW WORLD, I'LL DESTROY THE FALLEN ANGEL COMMANDER!
NO CHOICE, THEN.
JUST MY HOBBY.
BAL-ANCE BREAK-ER...!
WHAT'S THAT?
...! BUT HOW?

AN ARTIFICIAL SACRED GEAR...!? IMPOSSIBLE!
MY RESEARCH ON DRAGON-BASED SACRED GEARS LED TO THE CREATION OF MY VERY OWN ARTIFICIAL ONE.
I TRIED IMBUING "GIGANTIS DRAGON" INTO A SACRED GEAR. LOOKS LIKE IT WORKED.
THIS IS THE MOCK BALANCE BREAKER FORM OF MY "DOWNFALL DRAGON SPEAR"— "DOWNFALL DRAGON ANOTHER ARMOR."

BUT AZAZEL! YOU WERE ALREADY SO POWERFUL!
THAT'S RICH, COMING FROM SOMEONE BACKED BY THE "OUROBOROS DRAGON."
I AM KATEREA LEVIATHAN, AND I CARRY THE BLOOD OF THE ILLUSTRIOUS TRUE LEVIATHAN!
I CAN'T LOSE TO A FOUL FALLEN ANGEL LIKE YOURSELF!
BRING IT.
GOO GOOON
DON'T MOCK ME!
ZUDOO (FWOOSH)

!!
ZA (SLASH)
GAH HAH!
TOO (THWAK)
IT'S NO USE TRYING TO GET AWAY. THESE ARMS OF MINE CAN'T BE SEVERED!
KA (CLANG)
TRYING TO TAKE ME DOWN WITH YOU?
GYURURU (WRAP)
GASHI (CLENCH)
BIKI (SNAP)
BIKI
GUH!
I'M NOT GOING QUIETLY!

ZUPA (FWIP)
I'M PERFECTLY WILLING TO GIVE YOU A HAND.
GO (SLAM)

TCH... SO THAT'S THE LIMIT OF A MERE IMITATION.
PAKI
CRACK!
PAKA
GGLOWO
ZILI
QUILL
STILL ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT PROBABLY.
STICK WITH ME FOR NOW, "GIGANTIS DRAGON" FAFNIR.
DOD
GWHOOSHO
LOOKS LIKE THEY'RE FINALLY BACK.
—HUH?

...TCH! TURNING ON ME NOW, OF ALL TIMES?
ZU (FSSHH)
OO (SLAM)
WHAT THE HELL ...!?
VARY.
THAT'S RIGHT, AZAZEL.

WHY'S VARY GOING AGAINST AZAZEL ...?
IS HE WITH THE TERROR-ISTS...?
...GUESS I'VE REALLY LOST MY EDGE.
BUT WHY BETRAY ME, VARY?
SORRY, AZAZEL. THESE GUYS ARE JUST MORE FUN.
SO THE GREAT VANISHING DRAGON IS SUBMITTING TO OPHIS?
NAH. JUST COOPERATING.
OPHIS ASKED IF I WANTED TO FIGHT ASGARD, AND IT SEEMED LIKE A NICE WAY TO TEST MY STRENGTH.
I DON'T IMAGINE YOU'D ALLOW ME TO OPPOSE VALHALLA AND THE EARTH GODS, RIGHT, AZAZEL?
I DID TELL YOU TO "GET STRONGER," BUT...
...I ALSO SAID NOT TO CONTRIB-UTE TO THE EARTH'S DESTRUC-TION.

LIKE I CARE. I JUST WANT TO FIGHT FOREVER.
YOU HAVE COME THIS FAR BY FIGHTING.
WHEN I LEARNED THAT KATEREA AND THE OLD DEVIL KING FACTION HAD JOINED UP WITH THE KHAOS BRIGADE, I HAD A SNEAKING SUSPICION...
...THAT SO? WELL...
WHAT'S THAT MEAN ...?
I'M A HALF-BREED BORN TO A HUMAN MOTHER AND THE GRANDSON OF AN OLD DEVIL KING.
YOU'VE GOT OLD DEVIL KING BLOOD IN YOU...?
YES. I INHERITED THAT ROYAL BLOOD, AND MY HUMAN SIDE HARBORS THE "VANISHING DRAGON."
IF FATE AND MIRACLES DO EXIST ON THIS EARTH, I'M LIVING PROOF OF THEM.
MY NAME IS—

BA (FLAP)
VARY LUCI-FER.
I BEAR THE BLOOD OF THE PREVIOUS LUCIFER.

HIGH SCHOOL
DxD

HIGH SCHOOL
DxD

LIFE 48:
RED DRAGON AND WHITE DRAGON!

I BEAR THE BLOOD OF THE PREVIOUS LUCIFER.
MY NAME IS VARY LUCIFER.

IT'S TRUE. AS FAR AS I KNOW, HE'S THE STRONGEST WHITE DRAGON EMPEROR IN HISTORY.
NO WAY...

I LOOKED INTO YOUR PAST. YOUR PARENTS ARE ORDINARY HUMANS, AND UNTIL YOU TURNED DEVIL, YOU WERE UTTERLY ORDINARY AS WELL. NOTHING SPECIAL BESIDES THE BOOSTED GEAR.
BUT FATE IS CRUEL, FOR THE GULF BETWEEN US IS DEEP AND WIDE.
KASHA COLANO

HOW VERY DULL...
THAT MY SUPPOSED "RIVAL" WOULD BE SO DISAP-POINTING.
AH, I KNOW WHAT SORT OF GAME WE SHOULD PLAY.
LET'S GET YOU MOTIVATED BY REVENGE!
WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO SAY...?
HOW ABOUT I KILL DEAR MOM AND DAD?
ONCE I BUMP THEM OFF, YOU'LL BE A DEVIL WHO LIVES FOR REVENGE ON ME...
WELL? DON'T TELL ME THAT IDEA DOESN'T EXCITE YOU.

...KILL THEM? ...YOU BASTARD.
...LIKE YOU SAID, MY DAD'S JUST AN ORDINARY OFFICE GUY WHO WORKS DAWN TO DUSK TO PROVIDE FOR HIS FAMILY.
AND MY MOM'S JUST A TYPICAL HOUSEWIFE WHO PUTS HER ALL INTO MAKING US THREE DELICIOUS MEALS EVERY DAY.
...THEY MAY BE ORDINARY, BUT THEY RAISED ME, AND THEY'RE THE BEST 'RENTS IN THE WORLD.
.....KILL 'EM? YOU THINK I'D LET SCUM LIKE YOU...
GO (RUMBLE)
...TAKE THEM AWAY FROM ME!?

LOOK, ALBION! HIS POWER'S IN A WHOLE NEW LEAGUE.
STRENGTHENED BY ANGER AND HATRED... HA-HA-HA! FEEL THAT AMAZING SURGE OF DRAGON POWER!
WELSH DRAGON OVER BOOSTER!!!
HYOUDOU'S RAGE IS PURE, AND IT'S DIRECTED AT YOU.
PURE, UNDILUTED WILL GIVES HIS SACRED GEAR POWER. IT'S ONE SURE WAY TO DRAW OUT THE MIGHT OF A DRAGON.
(WHOOSH)
I SUPPOSE THIS PROVES HIS COMPATIBILITY WITH HIS DRAGON. EXCELLENT!

ENOUGH YAPPING FROM YOU!
GOO (SWOOSH)
YOU STILL LACK THE KNOWLEDGE TO WIELD DDRAIG PROPERLY. AND THAT'S AN AWFUL SHAME.
KASHAN (KACHAK)
ASCA-LON!
BUN (SWISH)
A DRAGON SLAYER? WHERE'D YOU FIND SUCH A DANGEROUS TOY?
BUT IT'S NO USE IF YOU CAN'T HIT ME.

STRONG...! I CAN'T TAKE TOO MANY OF THOSE HITS!
BAKI (CRACK)
GAKU (SLUMP)
GUHH... MY POWER... WHAT'D YOU DO?
HA-HA-HA! SO THIS IS MY RIVAL? TOO BAD. WEAK. SO WEAK!
YUU (HUMM)
DIVIDE!
FRIEND, HE HAS THE ABILITY TO HALVE HIS OPPONENT'S STRENGTH. MY OWN ABILITY WILL DOUBLE IT TO THE PREVIOUS LEVEL, BUT IT'S HIS OTHER ABILITY THAT'S THE REAL PROBLEM.
OOO (WHOOSH)
BOOST!

SO YOU'RE SAYING HE'LL STAY AT FULL POWER THE WHOLE TIME...?
HE'S GOT NO WEAK-NESSES... BUT...
BY EXPELLING THE POWER FROM THOSE WINGS OF LIGHT WHEN HE'S OVER CAPACITY, HE CAN MAINTAIN MAXIMUM STRENGTH.
HE CAN ADD THE POWER HE'S STOLEN TO HIS OWN. HOWEVER, THERE IS A LIMIT TO HOW MUCH HE CAN TAKE IN.
AN IDIOT WHO RESORTS TO BLIND CHARGING INSTEAD OF USING HIS SACRED GEAR AND DRAGON SLAYER. LIKE PEARLS BEFORE SWINE.
VLUN (VLUMM)
NOTHING HE CAN DO IF I MAKE HIM EAT MY FIST!
GOO (EWOOM)
GA (GLAND)
GA
GA
ARGH...! NO TIME FOR DEFENSE AGAINST THIS GUY!
GA

I'LL FOCUS ALL I'VE GOT IN THIS ONE HIT!
BOOST!!
GA
THAT'S "ALL YOU'VE GOT"?
VERY WELL!
DDRAIG! TRANSFER POWER TO THE STORED ASCALON!
WELL, 'COS YOU KEPT DODGING THE SWORD! BUT I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT JUST TAKE THE PUNCH!
TRANSFER!
GU (STRAIN)
GU
GO (WHOOSH)
—!!??

GO (POW)
DO (SLAM)
ONE MORE FOR GOOD MEASURE!
GUH!

SO THIS IS THE DRAGON SLAYER'S POWER? IT CUT THROUGH HIS ARMOR LIKE BUTTER!
BAGO (SMASH)
...HA-HA-HA. WELL DONE! GOOD TO KNOW YOU'RE NOT ALL TALK, RIVAL OF MINE!
...FINALLY GOT IN MY HIT. BUT I'M NOT SATISFIED UNTIL I GET TO PUNCH THAT FACE OF YOURS.
...YOU TALK OF SATISFAC-TION?

THIS FIGHT'S NOT OVER UNTIL ONE OF US IS ON THE GROUND.
HE'S STILL GOING STRONG ...!?
THAT BRACELET WILL SOON REACH ITS LIMIT.
FRIEND, RUNNING MAY BE OUR BEST OPTION, IF YOU'RE WILLING TO CONSIDER IT.
AS IF I COULD RUN!
GORI (CRUNCH)
...!
A PIECE OF VARY'S ARMOR...
...HEY, DDRAIG. MY SACRED GEAR RESPONDS AND EVOLVES TO MY WILL, RIGHT?

FU-HA-HA! AMUSING! BUT IT MAY KILL YOU. ARE YOU PREPARED FOR THAT?
OH, BUT I CAN.
...FRIEND, YOU CAN'T BE THINKING --
WELL SAID! I'M AS READY AS YOU ARE!
KAKON (KLAK)
I CAN TAKE ANY SORT OF PAIN IF IT MEANS SURPASSING THAT ASSHOLE OVER THERE!
DYING'S EASY. BUT I GOTTA STAY ALIVE LONG ENOUGH TO TAKE THE PRESIDENT'S VIRGINITY!
WHAT'S HE UP TO?
ZU (SURGE)
KIBA MANAGED THE IMPOSSIBLE BY FUSING HOLINESS WITH DEVIL POWER!
SO I'LL TAKE YOUR LOST POWER AND ADD IT TO MY OWN SACRED GEAR!
ZU

THIS PAIN! THOSE SPEARS OF LIGHT WERE LIKE SPLINTERS COMPARED TO THIS!!
TRYING TO ABSORB MY POWER? HA-HA-HA! FOOLISH!
DDRAIG, AS WE ARE DIAMETRICALLY OPPOSED, THIS AMOUNTS TO SUICIDE.
ALBION! I'VE LEARNED ONE THING SINCE MEETING THIS VESSEL, ISSEI HYOUDOU!
THAT A DEDICATED FOOL CAN MAKE THE IMPOSSIBLE POSSIBLE!
I'M FINE BEING A FOOL! IF I CAN'T WIN WITH MY BRAINS, I'LL BET IT ALL ON A DUMB MOVE LIKE THIS! NOW ANSWER TO MY WILL!

VANISHING DRAGON POWER IS TAKEN!!
...HEH-HEH-HEH. GUESS I'LL CALL IT "DIVIDING GEAR"?
COMING UP WITH THE IDEA IS ONE THING, BUT ACTUALLY TRYING IT ...?
WHO CAN SAY WHAT FUSING WITH THE OPPOSING POWER WILL DO TO HIM? HE COULD DIE... I'D EXPECT HIM TO DIE, IN FACT.
UN-THINK-ABLE!
UTTERLY UNTHINK-ABLE!

NO DOUBT THOUGH— YOUR LIFE HAS BEEN CUT SHORT WITH THIS!
HFF!
HFF!
RIGHT. I DON'T KNOW WHAT'LL HAPPEN EITHER. THAT'S MY GAMBLE! THAT'S HOW I LIVE MY LIFE!
VUN CHUNNO
EXCEL-LENT. ALLOW ME TO GO ALL OUT AS WELL, THEN!
HALF DIMENSION!
ZU CHOOMO
WH-WHAT THE —!?

HALVE EVERY-THING...?? WH-WHAT'S THAT ACTUALLY MEAN!?
TAKEN TO THE LIMIT, HIS ABILITY CAN WARP THE VERY DIMENSIONS AND HALVE EVERY-THING IN A GIVEN SPACE.
HEY, RED DRAGON EMPEROR. HE CAN DO MORE THAN JUST HALVE YOUR POWER.
IF VARY'S GETTING SERIOUS...
...HE COULD EVEN HALVE RIAS GREMORY'S BUST SIZE.
HUH .....?
HALVE... HER BOOB SIZE...?
HEY. WH-WHAT THE HELL ...!?
HEH-HEH-HEH. JUST WATCH.

...BOOBS HALVED?
...AND ASIA'S AND XENOVIA'S AND EVEN KONEKO-CHAN'S BELOVED...
THE PRESI-DENT'S...
...AND AKENO-SAN'S...

LIKE HELL HE WIIIIIIIILL!!
Boost!! Boost!! Boost!!
Boost!! Boost!! Boost!!
NEVER! I'LL NEVER LET YOU DO THAT!
DON (BOOM)
VARYYYY!

LIFE49: FISTS OF RAGE CLASH!!

I'LL NEVER LET YOU DO THAT! VARYYY!!
DO (BOOM)
JUST TRY AND LAY A HAND ON RIAS GREMORY, I DARE YA!
NO ONE'LL BE ABLE TO REVIVE YOU FROM THE DUST I GRIND YOU INTO!!
AH-HA-HA.
...
SO HIS POWER GOT A BOOST OVER THE THOUGHT OF A SHRINKING BUST!

BA (LEAP)
TODAY'S FULL OF SURPRISES, HUH? WHO KNEW A WOMAN'S BREASTS COULD PRODUCE SUCH EXPLOSIVE STRENGTH?
YOU CONTINUE TO AMUSE ME!

WHAT!? BEATING ME IN A CONTEST OF SPEED!?
IF I DON'T KNOCK THIS GUY INTO NEXT WEEK, EVERYONE'S BOOBS'LL GET A DOWNGRADE!
GO (POW)
THAT ONE'S FOR THE PRESIDENT'S BOOBS!

DIVIDE!
KA (FLASH)
ZU (THOOM)
GUH... MY POWER ...!
GAKUN (SLUMP)
AND THIS ONE'S FOR AKENO-SAN'S BOOBS!

THIS'S FOR ASIA'S BUDDING BOOBS!
BAKI (CRACK)
THAT'S FOR XENO-VIA'S BOOBS!
GAN (WHAM)
GRAAAGH!
AND THIS ONE... WELL, HALVING THEM WOULD MAKE 'EM PRETTY MUCH DISAPPEAR—

THIS ONE'S FOR KONEKO-CHAN'S LITTLE LOLI BOOBS!!
GOGO (RUMBLING)
ドゴゴ
ガ GA
ガ GA
ガ GA
ガ GA
ガ GA
ガッ GA (SMASH)

ZU
ZU (FSSHH)
KONEKO-CHAN'S ALREADY INSECURE ENOUGH ABOUT HER TINY TITTIES, Y'KNOW!?
BUWA (WEEP)
SO IF YOU WENT AND STOLE WHAT LITTLE SHE HAS AWAY FROM HER...
CAN YOU EVEN IMAGINE HOW SAD SHE'D BE!? YOU HALVING MANIAC!
FU-FU-FU... TRULY AMUSING...
ALBION— I THINK THIS ISSEI HYOUDOU DESERVES A PEEK AT THE WHITE DRAGON EMPEROR'S "JUGGERNAUT DRIVE."

USE THE "JUGGERNAUT DRIVE" RECKLESSLY, AND THE SPELL ON DDRAIG COULD BE BROKEN.
THAT WOULDN'T BE A SMART CHOICE HERE AND NOW, VARY.
TOO BAD. MY WILL DESIRES IT, ALBION.
AWAKEN US...
...TO THE WAY OF DOMINA-TION.
BE PRUDENT, VARY! IS IT REALLY YOUR WISH TO BE MANIPULATED BY MY POWER!?
WHAT'S HE...?

WE HAVE TO STOP VARY.
UGH, YOU GOTTA BE KIDDING! WHAT'S NOW!?
VARY!
BA (LEAP)
NOT SURE WHAT YOU'RE UP TO, BUT I'M FINISHING THIS—
HUP!
TAN (TMP)
!?

I'M HERE TO GET YOU.
BIKOU? BUT WHY?
WE'RE SMACK-DAB IN THE MIDDLE OF A FIGHT WITH THE EARTH GODS. YOU GOTTA COME HELP.
UGH...
SO KATEREA FAILED HERE? THAT MEANS YOUR JOB'S DONE TOO.
...RIGHT. TIME TO GO, THEN.
WH-WHO THE HELL'S HE!?
DESCENDANT OF THE VICTORIOUS FIGHTING BUDDHA... YOU PROBABLY KNOW HIM AS...

S-SUN WUKONG!?
WELL, HE'S ACTUALLY JUST A MONKEY SPIRIT WHO INHERITED SUN WUKONG'S POWER.
...THAT DAMN, INFAMOUS MONKEY FROM JOURNEY TO THE WEST...
...SUN WUKONG.
BUT THERE'S REALLY NO HOPE IF EVEN YOU'VE JOINED THE "KHAOS BRIGADE."
THE NAME'S BIKOU. NICE TO MEETCHA, RED DRAGON EMPEROR.
ON THAT NOTE—
MY ANCESTOR MIGHT'VE ACHIEVED BUDDHAHOOD, BUT I'M JUST A FREE SPIRIT.

WE'RE OUTTA HERE.
TO (TUP)
WAIT! YOU WON'T GET AWAY!
PISHI (CRACK)
PISHI
UUN (HUNN)

WH-WHAT ...!?
PAKIN (SHATTER)
THAT'S WHAT YOU GET FOR LOOSING SUCH EXPLOSIVE POWER IN AN INSTANT. THIS IS YOUR LIMIT FOR NOW.

OUR NEXT FIGHT WILL BE EVEN MORE BRUTAL.
SO LET'S BOTH GET STRONGER BEFORE THEN—
FURA (WOBBLE)
SHUSH (FWHP)
ISSEI!?

WHAT A RELIEF...
HMM ...?
YOU ALL RIGHT, ISSEI...?
DUMMY...
YOUR BOOBS ARE UNTOUCHED, PRESIDENT...
I TAKE IT THE REST OF THE SORCERERS ARE OUT OF COMMISSION ?
PRESIDENT! ISSEI-SAN!

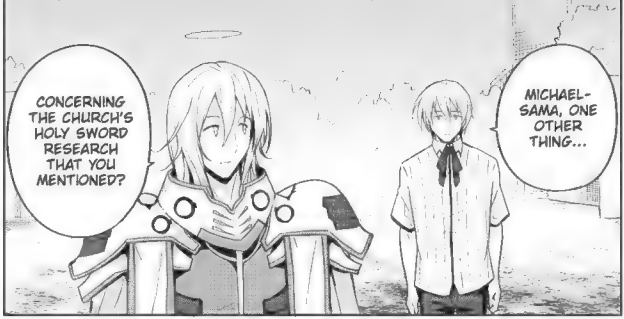
ONCE SOHNA-CHAN AND THE OTHERS WERE UNFROZEN, THEY HELPED US TAKE OUT THE TRASH. ☆
WHAT HAP-PENED TO YOUR ARM, AZAZEL?
KATEREA GOT A HOLD OF IT AND WAS ABOUT TO KILL US BOTH. I HAD TO CUT IT LOOSE.
HER ACTIONS REFLECT ON ALL US DEVILS...WE TAKE FULL RESPON-SIBILITY FOR YOUR INJURY...
NEVER MIND THAT. I MEAN, I WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR VARY, AFTER ALL.
...SO HE BETRAYED YOU?
HE'S ALWAYS BEEN AFTER NOTHING BUT POWER. IT'S MY FAULT I DIDN'T CATCH ON SOONER.
WE'LL HAVE TO DISCUSS OUR PEACE TERMS AND COUNTER-STRATEGIES AGAINST THIS "KHAOS BRIGADE."

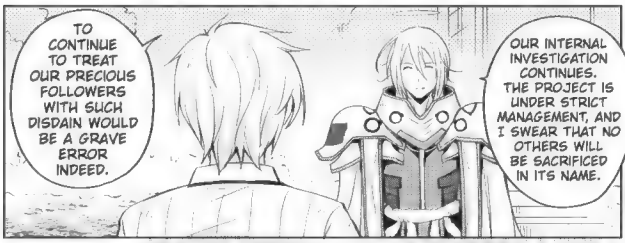
U-UMM, MICHAEL-SAN.
CAN I MAKE ONE REQUEST?
WHAT IS IT?
CAN YOU MAKE IT SO THAT ASIA AND XENOVIA DON'T GET HURT WHEN THEY PRAY TO GOD?

THE HARM INFLICTED ON DEVILS AND FALLEN ANGELS WHO PRAY IS PART OF HEAVEN'S SYSTEM.
SO LET ME ASK YOU BOTH, ASIA AND XENOVIA.
THOUGH GOD IS NO LONGER WITH US, WOULD YOU CONTINUE TO PRAY?

YES. THE LORD MAY BE GONE, BUT I'LL PRAY ALL THE SAME.
LIKEWISE. I PRAY OUT OF GRATITUDE TO THE LORD AND TO YOU, MICHAEL-SAMA.

ALLOWING TWO DEVILS TO OFFER PRAYERS SHOULD NOT POSE A PROBLEM.
UNDER-STOOD. I'LL TAKE CARE OF THE MATTER AS SOON AS I RETURN TO HEADQUAR-TERS.
NICE! SQUEAKY WHEEL GETS THE GREASE! NOW YOU TWO CAN PRAY ALL YOU LIKE!
ISSEI... THANK YOU.
ISSEI-SAN!
JUST KEEP THE PRAYING TO A MINIMUM AROUND THE REST OF US.


MICHAEL-SAMA, ONE OTHER THING...
CONCERNING THE CHURCH'S HOLY SWORD RESEARCH THAT YOU MENTIONED?


OUR INTERNAL INVESTIGATION CONTINUES. THE PROJECT IS UNDER STRICT MANAGEMENT, AND I SWEAR THAT NO OTHERS WILL BE SACRIFICED IN ITS NAME.
TO CONTINUE TO TREAT OUR PRECIOUS FOLLOWERS WITH SUCH DISDAIN WOULD BE A GRAVE ERROR INDEED.

THANK YOU SO MUCH!
NICE GOING, KIBA!
GU (BUMP)
YEAH. THANKS, ISSEI-KUN.

MICHAEL, LET ME EXPLAIN THIS TO THE GUYS IN VALHALLA. PISSING OFF ODIN IS THE LAST THING WE WANT.
I'LL TAKE CARE OF MOUNT SUMERU TOO.
YES, WE OUGHT TO BE PREPARED.

OH YEAH. RED DRAGON EMPEROR.
I'LL BE STICKING AROUND HERE FOR A WHILE, SO I HOPE YOU'LL ALL HUMOR ME.
EH?
I JUST CAN'T BEAR TO SEE A RARE SACRED GEAR NOT BEING CONTROLLED PROPERLY.

RED GOES FOR WOMEN, WHITE GOES FOR POWER—
BOTH ARE SURPRISINGLY SIMPLE AND PURE IN THEIR MOTIVES.

WHAT'S HE TALKING ABOUT...?
JULY 20XX— REPRESENTING HEAVEN— CHIEF ANGEL MICHAEL. REPRESENTING THE GRIGORI, THE FALLEN ANGELS' CENTRAL ORGANIZATION— GOVERNOR-GENERAL AZAZEL. REPRESENTING THE DEVIL REALM— DEVIL KING SIRZECHS LUCIFER. ALL THREE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE GREAT POWERS HAVE SIGNED THE PEACE AGREEMENT. IN THE SPIRIT OF COOPERATION, ALL CONFLICT BETWEEN THE POWERS IS HEREBY FORBIDDEN.
THE PEACE AGREEMENT WAS NAMED "THE KUOU ACCORD" AFTER THE ACADEMY AT WHICH IT WAS FORMED.
TO BE CONTINUED IN VOLUME 9!

TRANSLATION NOTES

COMMON HONORIFICS

no honorific: Indicates familiarity or closeness; if used without permission or reason, addressing someone in this manner would constitute an insult.

-san: The Japanese equivalent of Mr./Mrs./Miss. If a situation calls for politeness, this is the fail-safe honorific.

-sama: Conveys great respect; may also indicate that the social status of the speaker is lower than that of the addressee.

-kun: Used most often when referring to boys, this indicates affection or familiarity. Occasionally used by older men among their peers, but it may also be used by anyone referring to a person of lower standing.

-chan: An affectionate honorific indicating familiarity used mostly in reference to girls; also used in reference to cute persons or animals of either gender.

-senpai: A suffix used to address upperclassmen or more experienced coworkers.

-sensei: A respectful term for teachers, artists, or high-level professionals.

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Journey to the West: *Journey to the West* is a classical Chinese novel from the sixteenth century, and one of its main characters is the Monkey King, Sun Wukong (known as Son Gokuu in Japanese). The story and its characters would be familiar to an average Japanese high schooler like Issei.

HIGH SCHOOL DxD 8

HIROJI MISHIMA
ICHIEI ISHIBUMI
ZERO MIYAMA

Translation: Caleb D. Cook

Lettering: Anthony Quintessenza

This book is a work of fiction. Names, characters, places, and incidents are the product of the author's imagination or are used fictitiously. Any resemblance to actual events, locales, or persons, living or dead, is coincidental.

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